

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A process for producing an activated carbon for canisters, ~~comprising the steps of:~~ comprising:

adsorbing an organic compound onto an activated carbon by mixing the activated carbon and the organic compound in a liquid state to bring the organic compound into contact with surface pores of the activated carbon, the organic compound comprising coal tar and naphthalene; and

desorbing the organic compound from the activated carbon with naphthalene advancing inside of the pores of the activated carbon by heating the organic compound and the activated carbon at a temperature higher than the boiling point of the organic compound to selectively close most of pores of the activated carbon with a diameter less ~~than 20 Å.~~ than 20 Å, the temperature higher than the boiling point of the organic compound being controlled in a range of 500°C or less.

2. (Previously Presented) The process set forth in claim 1, wherein the organic compound and activated carbon are heated while the organic compound adsorbs onto the activated carbon.

3. (Original) The process set forth in claim 1, wherein the activated carbon is heated after the organic compound is adsorbed onto the activated carbon, thereby selectively leaving the organic compound only in the pores whose pore diameter falls in a predetermined range.

4. (Original) The process set forth in claim 2 further comprising a step of cooling the activated carbon with the organic compound adsorbed in an inert gas atmosphere.

5. (Original) The process set forth in claim 3 further comprising a step of cooling the activated carbon with the organic compound adsorbed in an inert gas atmosphere.

6-7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) A process for producing an activated carbon for canisters, ~~comprising the steps of:~~ comprising:

adsorbing an organic compound onto an activated carbon by mixing the activated carbon and the organic compound in a liquid state to bring the organic compound into contact with surface pores of the activated carbon, the organic compound comprising coal tar and naphthalene; and

desorbing the organic compound from the activated carbon with the naphthalene advancing inside of the pores of the activated carbon by heating the organic compound and the activated carbon at a temperature higher than the boiling point of the organic compound to selectively close pores of the activated carbon with a diameter less ~~than~~ 20 Å, than 20 Å, the temperature higher than the boiling point of the organic compound being controlled in a range of 500°C or less.

9. (Previously Presented) The process set forth in claim 8, wherein the organic compound and activated carbon are heated while the organic compound adsorbs onto the activated carbon.

10. (Previously Presented) The process set forth in claim 8, wherein the activated carbon is heated after the organic compound is adsorbed onto the activated carbon, thereby selectively leaving the organic compound only in the pores whose pore diameter falls in a predetermined range.

11. (Previously Presented) The process set forth in claim 9 further comprising a step of cooling the activated carbon with the organic compound adsorbed in an inert gas atmosphere.

12. (Previously Presented) The process set forth in claim 10 further comprising a step of cooling the activated carbon with the organic compound adsorbed in an inert gas atmosphere.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently Amended) A process for producing an activated carbon for canisters, ~~comprising the steps of:~~ comprising:

adsorbing an organic compound onto an activated carbon by mixing the activated carbon and the organic compound in a liquid state to bring the organic compound into contact with surface pores of the activated carbon, the organic compound comprising coal tar and naphthalene; and

desorbing the organic compound from the activated carbon with the naphthalene advancing inside of the pores of the activated carbon by heating the organic compound and the activated carbon at a temperature higher than the boiling point of the organic compound to selectively close most of pores of the activated carbon with a diameter ~~less than 20 Å.~~ than 20 Å, the temperature higher than the boiling point of the organic compound being controlled in a range of 500°C or less.

15. (Previously Presented) The process set forth in claim 14, wherein the organic compound and activated carbon are heated while the organic compound adsorbs onto the activated carbon.

16. (Previously Presented) The process set forth in claim 14, wherein the activated carbon is heated after the organic compound is adsorbed onto the activated carbon, thereby selectively leaving the organic compound only in the pores whose pore diameter falls in a predetermined range.

17. (Previously Presented) The process set forth in claim 15 further comprising a step of cooling the activated carbon with the organic compound adsorbed in an inert gas atmosphere.

18. (Previously Presented) The process set forth in claim 16 further comprising a step of cooling the activated carbon with the organic compound adsorbed in an inert gas atmosphere.

19. (Canceled)